



ParkTowerNews

NOVEMBER 1981

FOR THE RESIDENTS OF PARK TOWER

It's here ... the month of holiday preparations, Veteran's Day ... and, of course, THANKSGIVING TURKEY!!

November in Park Tower brings the continuation of some very successful activities: this series of Jazzercise classes is filled to capacity, and after a very successful Singles Party in October -- plans are being made for more events. Also, you'll want to watch for more information on an upcoming FREE Health Club Open House to be held soon.

But, before we get too far away from the thoughts of turkey, I wanted to mention something about bones!

WHAT KIND OF A BONE ARE YOU????

SHBONE ... it spends all its time wishing someone else would do the work!

JAWBONE ... it does all the talking and gorging, but very little else!

KNUCKLEBONES ... always knocking what everyone else tries to do!

BACKBONES ... the spine that gets behind the load to GET THE WORK DONE!

The coming of Thanksgiving offered me a good opportunity to share the ideas on bones with you, but there's another reason why it was printed.

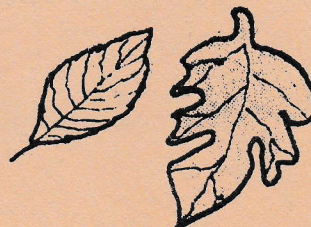
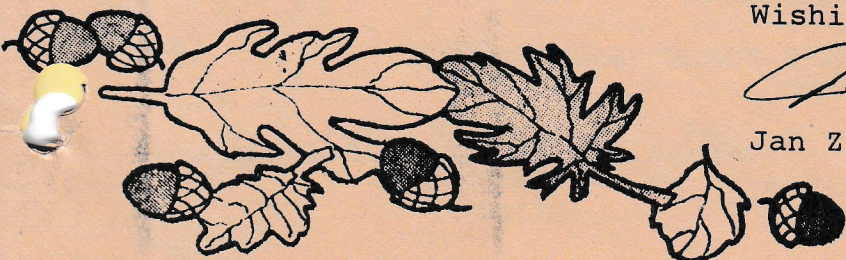
October was a disturbing month for Park Tower residents due to some security irregularities. A question often heard was "where was security?" Inside you will note a re-print of a CHICAGO TRIBUNE article ... condominium security is not just the job of a building security force, it's also the job of EVERYONE LIVING IN THE BUILDING.

Backbones volunteer. Backbones get jobs done. Backbones look out for the security and safety of others.

Best of all ... BACKBONES MAKE AND KEEP PARK TOWER A NICE PLACE TO LIVE!

Wishing you a safe and happy November

Jan Zielke, Editor



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Since the Park Tower Condominium came into existence, your various Boards have constantly increased the security program in the building. WE NOW HAVE 24 HOUR SECURITY, YEAR ROUND, AND ADDITIONAL SECURITY ON MANY OTHER OCCASIONS. However, with 56 floors to cover, it's virtually impossible to be everywhere at the same time.

But, we do have a security force available that is LARGE and COSTS US NOTHING. This security force is YOU!!! We have about 1,500 residents whose eyes and ears can help us achieve very effective security. Please take this responsibility seriously and help us help you.

There are things that residents do daily that PROHIBIT security from doing their job properly! What good is an expensive electronic lock system if residents continue to hold the door open for strangers?? PLEASE DO NOT LET ANYONE YOU DO NOT KNOW INTO THE BUILDING, instead offer them directions to the front desk. Or, if you hesitate to talk to strangers, walk to the front door lobby to be admitted and the doorman will question the stranger.

It's hard for all of us to avoid some temptations. When we don't double lock the door to our home ... we're tempting trouble! DOUBLE CHECK TO BE SURE THE DOOR IS COMPLETELY CLOSED AND USE THE DOUBLE LOCK.

Make it a HABIT: DOUBLE CHECK ... DOUBLE LOCK! (even if you are just running to the store or the laundry room -- carrying those keys is a lot easier than replacing the contents of your home!)

Of 5 recent burglaries in Park Tower, we believe that all were due to NOT DOUBLE LOCKING THE DOOR. In less than one minute, a professional thief using a simple credit card can enter an apartment that is not double locked.

The Board is investigating the possibility of offering a discount on the installation of second lock with dead bolts as a service to residents and we will advise you of our progress. But, for those having double locks, USE THEM AT ALL TIMES.

IF YOU NOTICE A SUSPICIOUS SITUATION:

1. report it IMMEDIATELY to the Doorman. You can reach the Doorman on your intercom or, after 5PM, by calling 769-3250.
2. and, follow up with a brief written note to Management and drop it in the Lock Box.

Get to know the neighbors on your floor -- good neighbors are secure neighbors! Get to know the Doormen and Security Force. They want to be friendly and helpful. Feel free to discuss your security observations.

Lastly, anytime you have an idea that you think will help, please write it out and drop it in the Lock Box. We can't think of all of them, and your idea could just be the perfect solution to a problem.

THE GREATEST SECURITY FORCE IS STILL YOU!

Russell Baruch, Board President

PEOPLE

JOY PIPALA, of Management Office fame, is recuperating from surgery. Joy called from the mini-office she created at home (you'll never see Joy far away from a job to be done!) to say "THANKS FOR ALL THE GET WELL CARDS AND WISHES."

First we hope Joy's good health returns soon, then we hope that Joy can return to work soon!

HOWARD COHEN, star of our very own TAXES IN THE 80's Column, has earned another honor for Park Tower residents: he's the topic of an article in a recent issue of the Illinois CPA Newsjournal. As President of the Metro Chapter of the Illinois CPA Society, Howard received excellent press coverage for his leadership abilities. Congratulations, Howard!

BEHIND THE SCENES: it takes a LOT of really great people to put each issue of the Park Tower News "to bed." Tippy-toeing through the halls the past several months were ALICE SHUMACHER, MABLE ENRIGHT, RUBY LIPPERT, IRV HELLER HERB ZIMMERMAN, ED McGOWAN and JIM BYRD. Also working on each issue is the BOARD OF DIRECTORS, the helpful GALS IN THE MANAGEMENT OFFICE, SANDRA GOLD and all the friendly notes of encouragement from the residents. Thanks to all for their help!

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TAXES IN THE 80's by HOWARD COHEN, C.P.A.

QUESTION: In order to work, I hired an individual to care for my 5 year old son. What amount, if any, can be deducted for income tax purpose?

ANSWER: For 1981, you are allowed a credit against your tax (not a deduction) of 20% of employment related expenses up to \$2,000 or a maximum allowable credit of \$400. If there were 2 or more qualifying individuals being cared for, the maximum allowable credit would be 20% up to \$4,000 or \$800.

However, more good news!

Under the new tax act, for 1982 and subsequent years, the amount of the child care credit is INCREASED to 30% of employment related expenses up to \$2,400 for one qualifying individual and \$4800 for two or more. But, the 30% is reduced by one percent for every \$2,000 or part thereof, by which the taxpayer's adjusted gross income exceeds \$10,000. This still leaves a minimum credit of 20%

Other items to remember regarding the credit are:

- * Generally, the credit is available to married couples only if they file a joint return.
- * The amount of the expenses in the case of a single individual can't exceed their earned income or in the case of a married couple, the lesser of the two incomes each earned.
- * Employment need not be full time.
- * Payments to relatives who are NOT dependents qualify.



RACQUETEERING IN PARK TOWER???

Well, since we've mentioned crime in various articles this month, it would be a crime not to mention Racqueteering in Park Tower!

Racqueteering is permitted in Park Tower -- even encouraged when it's done on our handy Racquetball Courts.

What is Racquetball? It's a fast paced and exciting sport featuring two or more players whacking a little ball in a brightly lit room! It's a chance for you to take those aggressions out on the court ... instead of the family or business associates!

The game is easily learned by young and old, men or women, klutz or jock -- and let's face it, YOU'VE GOT TO FIT INTO ONE OF THOSE CATEGORIES! Racquetball provides a lot of healthy exercise in a short period of time.

Unlike golf or football, racquetball doesn't require a whole bunch of expensive equipment that takes up oodles of space in your home. All you need is a racquet, one ball, a good pair of shoes (no dark soled rubber shoes, please) and -- unless you absolutely insist on being a fashion plate, just ordinary clothing that you'll be comfortable exercising in.

Racquetball rules are easy and -- best of all -- you can play it WITHOUT LEAVING HOME, almost! Park Tower has two racquetball courts ready to help you stay active and in shape over the long winter months ahead.

Racquetball, we hope, will get you into hot water: first by taking a quick shower and then enjoying a relaxing soak in the Park Tower Jacuzzi.

WARNING: The Sturgeon General warns that there's nothing fishy about a Park Tower Health Club Membership. In fact, the low rates mean that you can net a really good catch! Call the Pool Office (769-1513) for more information.

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TONGUE IN CHEEK RECIPE ...

We've had repeated requests for recipes to be shared with other Park Tower residents. We present the following if you're expecting a lot of company!

ELEPHANT STEW

- 1 Elephant
- 2 Rabbits (optional)
- Salt and Pepper
- Brown Gravy

Cut elephant into bite-size pieces. This should take about two months! Simmer on stove for about six weeks on a high heat, adding 25 pounds of salt and pepper to taste. This recipe will serve 3,800 people. If more are expected, the two rabbits may be added. Where to get the elephant??? That's YOUR problem!!!



HAPPY COOKING, EVERYONE!!!

Pros say residents are their own best security

By Helen Alice Kriz

NO CONDOMINIUM dweller wants to live in an armored fortress, but everyone wants to be safe. Security systems in Chicago-area condos range from a single doorman whose primary responsibility is public relations to a private security force employing video surveillance, motor patrols, and radio communications.

Security professionals and police agree that when there is a theft or burglary, residents usually have themselves to blame for letting a stranger in the building, leaving a door propped open, or leaving apartment keys with a maid or in an auto.

A condominium with a tight feeling of community where people are alert and know their neighbors is a safer community, says Thomas Stuckey, security director of Carl Sandburg Village condominiums in Chicago.

"The people who live here are each and every one of them a member of the security staff," Stuckey says. "If they weren't, I'd have to have a security force 10 times larger than I do." He adds that the "high-rise hermit" who keeps to himself is the difficult person to protect.

A HEALTHY skepticism is another no-cost security must. "If you go into a building with an intercom, all you need to do is to run your finger down the buttons and I'll guarantee you three or four people will buzz you in without even saying 'hello'," says Robert Bilhorn, president of security consultants Unit Systems, Inc., in Addison.

Bilhorn finds that "the concept of the closed community is continually growing . . . completely walled-in (with) restricted access."

The security plan appropriate for a particular building depends on the building's size, location, layout, and residents' desires. Cost is a restriction, but come budget time, security is the "one item people are afraid that we will diminish," says Joel Bernbaum, vice president of the Carl Sandburg Homeowners Association.

There are dozens of security systems consultants listed in the Chicago commercial Yellow Pages who can design a custom condo security system. Chicagoans should consider the police department's free building security survey service. An officer will inspect a building from roof to basement, assess its security problems, and make written recommendations to improve security.

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THE PARK TOWER BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEED YOU!!! How about volunteering a very small amount of your time to serve as a FLOOR CAPTAIN? As a Floor Captain, you'd be asked to ...

1. Regularly check floors and stairwells, making sure they are clean, lights and smoke alarms are working.
2. Regularly checking to see that trash does not collect around the incinerators and that newspapers and materials do not accumulate outside neighbor's door.
3. Collecting proxies for Board Elections.

Being a Floor Captain could be just the perfect way to meet a new friend ... while contributing to the betterment of the building. VOLUNTEER NOW by COMPLETING THE FLOOR CAPTAIN INFORMATION SHEET ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS PAGE!

FLOOR CAPTAIN VOLUNTEER

Please complete the following information, fold so the "Floor Captain Volunteer" is on the outside, staple shut and drop in the Lock Box in the front lobby. Thank you!

YES, I (WE) would like to volunteer time to serve as Floor Captain!

Name (please print)

Name

Unit #

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

I prefer the following floor(s):

Do you have any ideas that you feel would help building security?

INTERESTED IN SAVING SOME MONEY???

One of our homeowners is interested in installing thermostats in his bedrooms to automatically control the heating and air-conditioning fan.

The electrician quoted the following prices for such an installation:

- 2 for \$125.00
- 3 for \$117.00
- 4 for \$112.00
- 5 for \$110.00
- 6 or more, \$100.00

In you have interest in pursuing such an installation, please contact the management office.

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FROM THE TOWER

by Jan Zielke

We talk a lot about being a good neighbor in this specific issue of the Park Tower News ... and, we happened to come across the following incident demonstrating how nice it is to have a nice neighbor.

A couple of months ago, when I first started doing the paper, strange things would occur outside my door. It wasn't uncommon for people to approach my door, pause, bend over and then walk away. My neighbor, DOROTHY LEE, cared enough about my well-being to approach the stranger and ask exactly what was going on. It's exactly this kind of caring for each other that can and does make Park Tower a wonderful place to live.

Oh ... the strangers were dropping off news for the paper!

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A PAUSE FOR A POEM

One tiny snowflake
 whatever can it do?
 Doesn't make a pile of drift,
 that shold be clear to you.
 A single petal
 whatever does if form?
 Does it make a flower?
 That's not the usual norm.

Now then, a little pebble
 whatever can it build?
 Can it form a dwelling
 or a tower grand?
 What use is a tear drop?
 What is its purpose here?
 Can it ease a heart ache,
 or erase away a fear?

... No, it takes a multitude, a pile or a group!
 It takes a mighty number, to form, or build, or help!
 It isn't just a single one, but many used in form
 That gives the final product a purpose to perform!

-- Lucy A. Jochen

SOCIAL EVENTS UPCOMING ...

JAZZERCISE classes held in the Park Tower Party Room on Monday and Wednesday evenings are filled to capacity. And, why not? Jazzercise is good, healthy FUN!!!

Efforts are being made to establish a weekday afternoon session designed especially for a more mature individual. Watch for more information on both the afternoon Jazzercise Class and on the upcoming series on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

BRING YOUR MAKE UP AND LEARN HOW TO REALLY USE IT!!!



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17th - PARK TOWER PARTY ROOM

JUDY SPRINGER, through the courtesy of JAZZABELL's, will present a SKIN CARE AND MAKE UP APPLICATION class. Bring your own products and you'll be shown how to properly use them!

And ... some lucky lady will be selected from the audience to be a model and have a free make up application.

Learn the new looks for Fall and how to really be dazzling for the Holidays!

The SINGLES PARTY held in October was a huge success and more are being planned! Watch for more information on social activities designed especially for the single person.

Have fun...

GAMES NIGHT will again be featured in the Party Room for residents to play cards, games or just enjoy some conversation.

ENJOY "GAMES NIGHT" on THURSDAY at 7:30PM November 5th, 12th and 19th.

Also upcoming ...

HOWARD COHEN, C.P.A. will explain and answer your questions on taxes. If this is November ... can year end taxes be far behind? Watch for more information on this informative evening.

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INSTEAD OF PRINTING A MONTHLY CALENDAR, THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE WILL SUMMARIZE UPCOMING EVENTS AND POST NOTICES AS A FURTHER REMINDER.

REMEMBER NOW ...

YOU'VE

BEEN

WARNED!!!

The following PARKING POLICY WILL NOW BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

FRONT OF BUILDING

Restricted to 15 minutes. Drivers MUST sign sheet with the Doorman.

BACK DOOR/RECEIVING DOCK

NO PARKING AT ANY TIME WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION. Moving vans, private cars and delivery vehicles MUST register with the Doorman.

DRIVEWAY BETWEEN PARK TOWER AND LAKE TERRACE

NO PARKING AT ANY TIME!!!

*** UNAUTHORIZED CARS WILL BE STICKERED AND TOWED AT OWNER'S EXPENSE!***

Please understand that these restrictions are NECESSARY for fire and security reasons. We ask you to make every effort to comply with the parking guidelines and to inform your visitors and guests to avoid any embarrassment to them.

GUEST PARKING IS AVAILABLE for a nominal fee in the Park Tower Garage or in the Jonathan Lot adjacent to the south side of the building.

SICK CALL ...

October held one bad break for SANDRA GOLD, it came in the form of a broken arm! Let's hope November and the following months will find Sandra mending well and enjoying good health.

Also recuperating is ED MCGOWAN. Ed's been under the weather for far too long and we really miss him! Ed is now at home following a stay in Evanston Hospital. We wish Ed a very speedy recovery!

A merry heart goes all the day, a sad heart tires in a mile.

Shakespeare



BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The following is a recap of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING of October 13t

The Board of Directors voted to implement the following:

- * Burn the 20,000 gallons of oil which has been stored in tanks under the building, hereby saving the Association \$11,620 in heating costs for the coming season.
- * Westinghouse Elevator Company will separate the lights on the SERVICE ELEVATORS so that residents will know when one service elevator is out of operation.
- * The current Pool desk will be replaced.
- * Two energy related feasibility studies will be performed:
one on heat savings through the installation of double pane windows and the other on heat recovery through the building exhaust system.
- * The purchase of Conserv-Energy adaptor units and bulbs for existing public area lighting fixtures. This installation will save the Association an estimated \$3,012.59 - the payback being approximately one year.
- * The building corridors will be repainted at a rate of eleven per year for an approximate cost of \$1,000.00 per corridor.
- * The firm of Laventhol & Horwath has been selected to do the Association audit for the fiscal year ending 2/28/82.
- * A Jazzercise class was approved for a six week period on an experimental basis.

MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

SCHEDULED FOR

DECEMBER 9th at 7:30PM.

HERE'S A COLORFUL REMINDER ...

Grey may not be your favorite color, but THERE IS A RULE THAT STANDARD GREY SHADES MUST BE USED ON ALL WINDOWS. Keeping a uniform appearance on the exterior of Park Tower adds to everyone's property value. So, if you're thinking of changing window decor, ask your decorator about "duplex" shades that are grey on the outside and your favorite color on the inside.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH: "You can make more friends in two months by becoming really interested in other people than you can in two years by trying to get other people interested in you."

Dale Carnegie